



Welcome to
WESLEY
MEMORIAL

A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

**Our purpose is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers
of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world.**



SUNDAY - DECEMBER 14, 2014
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Traditional Worship in the Chapel
8:30 am

Contemporary Worship in the Fellowship Hall
8:45 am & 9:45 am

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
11:00 am

1225 Chestnut Drive • High Point, North Carolina 27262
336.884.2204 • www.wesleymemorial.org

The Worship of God

Chapel

December 14, 2014

8:30 am

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! Please take a moment to sign the attendance notebooks during the announcements. If you are a guest, please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Sleepers Wake! A Voice Is Calling.....Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord has done great things for us;

And so we are glad!

Our mouths are filled with laughter

And our tongues with shouts of joy!

† OPENING PRAYER

† HYMN No. 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed.....ELLACOMBE

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel.....VENI EMMANUEL

Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

SCRIPTURE LESSON

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

SERMON

Al Ward

HYMN No. 246

Joy to the World.....ANTIOCH

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

He That Keepeth Israel.....Adolphe Schlösser

Taylor Boone, tenor

He that keepeth Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps. He will give his Angels charge over thee, To keep thee in all thy ways. Put thy trust in Him and call upon Him, for His ears are open unto thy prayers.

† DOXOLOGY No. 94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow.....LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Service Notes:

The Call to Worship is based on Psalm 26 and taken from *And Also With You, Year B*.

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† **HYMN No. 670 (VERSUS 1 & 4)**

Go Forth for God GENEVA

† **BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Venite John Leavitt

† Please stand as you are able.

Worship Leaders: **Al Ward**, Senior Pastor; **Jared Stine**, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care; **Dave and Linda McCoy**, **Katharine** and **Sarah Hoskins**, Advent Readers; **Taylor Boone**, tenor; **Frank Pifferetti**, Organist.

Horizon Worship

The Gathering 8:45 am

December 14, 2014

The Beginning 9:45

Gathering Music

Joyful Joyful Casting Crowns
Emmanuel Hillsong

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Prayer Concerns and Prayer

Offering

Joy to the World / Shout for Joy Paul Baloche

Scripture

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Message

Al Ward

Time of Reflection

Emmanuel Reprise

Closing

Worship Leaders: Al Ward, Senior Pastor ; Erin Beall, Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship; Chad, Dawn, Emma, and Jonah Miller, Advent readers (8:45); Michael, Stephanie, Ellison, and Olivia Beaver, Advent Readers (9:45); Keith Byrd, Director of Contemporary Music; The Horizon Praise Team.

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! Please sign the attendance notebooks that the ushers pass out during the announcements. If you are a guest, we ask that you please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

HORIZON

Horizon Worship Services include The Gathering at 8:45 am and The Beginning at 9:45 am on Sunday mornings. Both services meet in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome!

The Worship of God

Sanctuary

December 14, 2014

11 am

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Sleepers Wake! A Voice Is Calling..... Johann Sebastian Bach

PRELUDE

Joseph, Dearest, Joseph Mine..... arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Youth Handbells

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

A Home For Jesus..... Ruth Elaine Schram
Children grades 2-5

Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord has done great things for us;

And so we are glad!

Our mouths are filled with laughter

And our tongues with shouts of joy!

OPENING PRAYER

PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed..... ELLACOMBE

Please be seated.

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel..... VENI EMMANUEL

Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

After the new members have affirmed their vows, the pastor shall say:

Members of the household of God, I commend these people to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to support the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our witness, and our service as together we make and sustain spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

ANTHEM

The Gift..... William Cutter

Chancel Choir; Adult Handbells; Children Grades 2-5

O come, little children, O come, one and all. O come to the cradle in Bethlehem's stall. Come see what has happened this holiest of nights. Come gaze on the gift from the Father of Might. How sweetly He lies in His bed made of straw As Mary and Joseph behold Him in awe! The shepherds are kneeling before His poor bed, While caroling angels are heard overhead. O come, join the shepherds, and on bended knee Give thanks to the Father for Jesu, our King. O lift up your voices and join in the praise The angels from heav'n to the Father now raise.

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! Please take a moment to sign the attendance notebooks during the announcements. If you are a guest, please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

"The Gift" was purchased for the traditional music library by Devona and Leo Hill in loving memory of their daughter, Debbie H. Hill.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

He That Keepeth IsraelAdolphe Schlösser

Taylor Boone, tenor

He that keepeth Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps. He will give his Angels charge over thee, To keep thee in all thy ways. Put thy trust in Him and call upon Him, for His ears are open unto thy prayers.

Please stand as you are able.

DOXOLOGY No. 94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings FlowLASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN No. 218

It Came upon the Midnight ClearCAROL

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S NATIVITY

Isaiah Foretells the Birth of JesusIsaiah 9:2, 6-7

Reader: J. P. Kennett

“To A Maid Engaged to Joseph” - Chancel Choir

The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary Luke 1:26-31

Reader: Lucy Larkin Heard

Hymn #230 - *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (verse 1) - Congregation

Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus Luke 2:1, 3-7

Reader: Warner Vaughan

Hymn #217 - *Away in a Manger* (verse 1) - Congregation

The Shepherds Go to Bethlehem Luke 2:8-16

Readers: Luke Shaw and Emma Carlisle Niebauer

Hymn #245 - *The First Noel* (verse 1) - Congregation

Matthew Tells of the Wise Men’s Visit Matthew 2:1-11

Readers: George Marsh and Olivia Beaver

Organ introduction to *We Three Kings*

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN No. 254

We Three Kings KINGS OF ORIENT

(During singing, you are invited to bring your “White Christmas” gifts to the Prayer Rail)

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen John Rutter

Chancel Choir

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Venite John Leavitt

Worship Leaders: Al Ward, Senior Pastor; Erin Beall, Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship; Jared Stine, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care; Debbie Foust, Director of Children’s Ministries; Anne Carroll, Director of Music Ministries; Frank Pifferetti, Organist; Chancel Choir; Adult Handbells; Youth Handbells; Taylor Boone, tenor; Children grades 2-5; Cliff, Mary, Blake, and Maddie Carroll and Logan Greene; Advent Readers; Alex Moore, Reilly Williams, Acolytes; Neil Brown, Crucifer; Pete Thompson, Sound Engineer.

Service Notes:

The Call to Worship is based on Psalm 26 and taken from *And Also With You, Year B*.

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Ushers for the month of December:

Scott Dunbar, Windley Dunbar, Barbara Frye, Miles Gurley, Jane Harriss, Stuart Nunn, Tom Smothers, Colby Walton.

Greeters for the month of December:

Wanna Blanton, Bill Bradner, Brian Bunch.

Acknowledgments ~

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Lawrence Pritchett and Abbey Jones, and in memory of their grandparents, Hal and Irma Ingram, Laurie and Betty Pritchett, John and Ruth Jones, and James Smith.

Congratulations ~

We welcome our newest arrival, Katherine Taylor Covington born December 9, 2014. Daughter to Braden and Meredith Covington of High Point, NC.

Thanks and praise ~

... to the Eighth Day Unity Group for making 30 comfort pillows and to the Prayer Shawl Committee for the prayer shawls and baby blankets being sent to the Henderson Settlement in Kentucky for Christmas. A special thanks to Ed and Becky Weller for delivering these gifts and the angel tree gifts for the Henderson Settlement children.

... to Anne Carroll, Frank Pifferetti and the Chancel Choir for the beautiful music they shared with us last Sunday.

... to Mike Hedrick for cutting and sanding the wooden pieces for WMS Pre-K 4's carpentry projects. The children are constructing nativity sets for family gifts.

... to the Early Childhood Team for hosting the WMS Teachers Christmas Luncheon, the beautiful decorations and candle favors.

... to Rebekah Carlson, SUZUKI teacher, and to her daughter Ingrid (age 2) for playing Christmas carols on their violins at the WMS Teachers Christmas Luncheon. Staff were in awe of Ingrid's ability to play on her tiny violin and take her bows.

... to all those who came and helped during Hanging of the Greens. Many Sunday school classes and individuals came and helped decorate the church, helped with the children's activities, dinner and singing. It was a great event that takes a lot of volunteers to make it happen. Thank you all!

2015 PLEDGE RESULTS

Received: 422 Pledges totaling \$1,620,075.00
Outstanding: 48 Pledges totaling \$121,989.00

If you have not submitted your 2015 pledge card, please do so TODAY!

Ways to CONNECT

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PERFORMANCES

A highlight of the Christmas season for many, please join us for the children's nativity performances today during the 11:00 am service and next Sunday, December 21 at the 8:45 am service. We'll re-live the Christmas story through the eyes of a child.



ATTENTION STUDENTS: CHRISTMAS PARTY TONIGHT AT 7PM

This evening at 7:00 pm, we are having our annual Christmas party! We will have the party in the Underground gathering area. Wear your tackiest Christmas sweater, bring a side dish or drink, and a gift for our gift exchange (\$10 max)! It promises to be a blast. If you'd like more information, please contact Jay.

YOU'RE INVITED TO LIVE ALIVE THIS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16



Live Alive gatherings are for adults 55+ to enjoy and fellowship. Activities begin at 10 am. This month's program will feature Christmas music provided by BJ Craven and 3 Quarter Time. This program is being

sponsored by Gail and Chase Lassiter. Lunch is at 11:45 am, if you were unable to make a reservation, bring your lunch and join us.

Christmas Eve WORSHIP SERVICES:



- 3 pm – Experience the Wonder: Family-Friendly Worship Service in the Dining Hall
- 5 pm – Lovefeast in the Sanctuary
- 8 pm – Contemporary Candlelight Service with Holy Communion
- 11 pm – Traditional Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Ways to GROW

NEW WOW BIBLE STUDY STARTING THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Attention, Women of Wesley Memorial UMC! A new Bible study called *Breathe*, by Priscilla Shirer, is coming Thursday mornings 9:30-11:00 am, beginning January 22, 2015. We are in bondage to busyness. We constantly strive to complete the limitless to-do lists that hinder us from experiencing all that God has for us. We miss



the moments because we rush ahead to the next thing. It is time for us to breathe and build margin into our lives for God. Sabbath was intended as a gift and it is still a gift to us today. If you are weary, worn out, and exhausted the concept of Sabbath will change your life.

Ways to SERVE

CAROLING AND POINSETTIA DELIVERY THIS AFTERNOON



Join us today at 2:00 pm in the front circle as we visit our church members who are homebound or in retirement communities. We will travel in multiple groups to sing Christmas carols and deliver poinsettias. NO SINGING EXPERIENCE necessary - just bring a smile and a willing heart!

OPEN DOOR MINISTRIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to pick up food at 1 pm on Friday afternoons from local schools and then deliver to Open Door for meals. Thank you for volunteering with WMUMC for Open Door Ministries. Together we can make a difference! For more information contact Julie Price at julie.f.price@wellsfargo.com.

Ways to GIVE

REMINDER: ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE BACK TODAY



Each angel represents a child who would otherwise not receive a Christmas gift. These children are identified by our partners at Henderson Settlement and the High Point Jail Ministry. All gifts should be delivered back to the trees today Sunday, December 14.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP

This year's CHRISTMAS OFFERING will help provide building supplies and assistance with travel expense for a mission building team heading to Puerto Rico in January 2015. Offering envelopes were mailed in early December and also available in all the worship venues or you may contribute on line.

REMINDER: All Memorials/Honorariums to be acknowledged before Christmas need to be turned in to the Church Office by this Wednesday, December 17.

GIFTS THAT TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



Sundays December 14 & 21

Fellowship Hall: 8:30 - 9:00 & 9:30 - 10:00 am

Media Center: 9:15 - 9:45 am

Narthex: 10:45 - 11:00 am & Noon - 12:15 pm

Wednesday, December 17

Administration Building Lobby: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

The GTTOW alternative gifts market is up and running. Shop on Sunday mornings and Wednesdays and support a great cause while honoring a loved one. Many of the popular gifts are back in addition to several new options. To date, we've raised over \$150,000 to support mission projects at Wesley Memorial, in High Point & beyond.

Your gifts will support:

WM Prayer Shawl Ministry
Hospice Pillow Ministry
Wesley Memorial School
Community Clinic of High Point
Macedonia Family Resource Center
Fairview Elementary School Students
Open Door Ministries
Mobile Meals of High Point
Ward Street Mission
West End Ministries
High Point Jail Ministry
Second Harvest Food Bank
YWCA of High Point
Henderson Settlement
Nakuru, Kenya

A project of Wesley Memorial's Mission & Community Impact Team

CALENDAR: DECEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 21, 2014

Sunday, December 14, 2014

- Youth Handbell Rehearsal, 9:10 am, Sanctuary
- Children's Music (Grades 2-5), 9:20 am, Sanctuary
- Children, Youth & Adult Sunday School, 9:45 am
- Children's Nativity, 11:00 am, Sanctuary
- Poinsettia Delivery & Caroling, 2:00 pm, Front Circle
- MYF - Christmas Party, 7:00 pm, Underground

Monday, December 15, 2014

- Jean Stockton's Bible Study, 10:30 am, Circle View Room

Tuesday, December 16, 2014

- Live Alive Bingo, 10:00 am, Fellowship Hall
- Live Alive Book Club, 10:30 am, Small Dining Room
- Live Alive Luncheon, 11:45 am, Dining Hall
- Church Council Meeting, 5:30 pm, Circle View Room

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

- GTTOW Sale, 10:00 am, Administrative Lobby
- Mid-Week Communion, 11:00 am, Chapel
- Bible Study Lunch, 12:00 pm, Dining Hall
(Cost is \$5 for the soup-and-sandwich combo. Call the church office by 4:30 pm on Monday to make a reservation.)
- Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1:30 pm, 6 Grade / A&C
- Advent Study, 6:30 pm, D201 Rhema Classroom
- Confirmation Class, 5:30 pm, Underground C101
- Chancel Choir Practice, 6:30 pm, Choir Room
- Men's Bible Study, 7:00 pm, Circle View Room

Thursday, December 18, 2014

- Student Ministry Breakfast Club, 7:00 am, Chick-fil-A
- Adult Handbell Rehearsal, 7:00 pm, E204

Saturday, December 20, 2014

- Wesley 100 Breakfast, 8:00 am, Dining Hall
- Praise Team Rehearsal, 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall
- Jail Ministry Angel Tree Party, 3:00 pm, Underground

Sunday, December 21, 2014

- Children's Nativity, 8:45 am, Fellowship Hall
- Children, Youth & Adult Sunday School, 9:45 am
- Youth Handbells, 5:00 pm, E204

WELCOME VISITORS!

Thank you so much for joining us today in worship. If this is your first time worshipping with us, **please help yourself to a blue Wesley Memorial reusable tote bag as our gift to you.** Inside you will find information about our church. We also invite you to take our First Time Visitor Survey found on the homepage of our website. We hope you will return to worship with us again!

Our faithfulness in attendance December 7, 2014

All Worship Services: 650

(Goal 505)

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE

OUR CLERGY & MINISTRY STAFF:

Dr. Al Ward, *Senior Pastor*

812-4808; award@wesleymemorial.org

Rev. Erin Beall, *Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation & Contemporary Worship*

812-4815; ebeall@wesleymemorial.org

Rev. Jared Stine, *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care*

812-4813; jstine@wesleymemorial.org

Scott Howell, *Director of Administration & Finance*

812-4800; showell@wesleymemorial.org

Jay Butler, *Director of Student Ministries*

812-4812; jbutler@wesleymemorial.org

Anne Carroll, *Director of Music Ministries*

812-4816; acarroll@wesleymemorial.org

Debbie Foust, *Director of Children's Ministries*

812-4804; dfoust@wesleymemorial.org

In the event of an emergency, you simply need to call the main number, 884-2204. You will then **choose option 1.** It is available 24/7 and will connect you with a pastor.